

Baseline Bridge
Spanning South Platte River
Brighton vicinity
Adams and Weld Counties
Colorado

HAER No. CO-44

HAER
COLO,
1-BRIG.V,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Baseline Bridge

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Location: Spanning the South Platte River on County Road 168
(Base Line Road), 7.8 miles northwest of Brighton,
Adams County, Colorado

UTM: 13.514790.4427615
Quad: Ft. Lupton

Date of Construction: 1926

Builder: Levy Construction Company, Denver, Colorado

Present Owner: Adams County
Adams County Government Building
450 South Fourth Avenue
Brighton, Colorado 80601

Original Use: Roadway bridge

Present Use: Roadway bridge, scheduled for replacement

Significance: The Baseline bridge is the longest-span example of the
basic Warren truss. It is also notable as the only
Warren pony truss surveyed in the State that features
multiple spans.

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Fraserdesign
Loveland, Colorado
September 6, 1983

Edited, Typed and
Transmitted by: Jean P. Yearby, HAER, 1988

Historical Information

As work progressed on Base Line Road, a joint venture between adjacent Adams and Weld counties, bids for construction of a steel bridge over the South Platte River were solicited. Proposals were received in February 1926 from eight bridgebuilding firms: the Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company, the Clinton Bridge Works, the Monarch Engineering Company, Thomas J. Patterson, Chris O'Neill, H. M. Fox, the Construction Service, Inc. and the Levy Construction Company. The Denver-based Levy Construction Company was awarded the contract with a low bid of \$13,500. Using steel rolled by Illinois, the contractor completed this three-span Warren pony truss later that year. Though still in relatively good condition, it is scheduled for eventual replacement.

Architectural Information

Span number:	3	End/top chord:	2 channels w/cover and batten plates
Span length:	80'0"	Bottom chord:	2 channels w/batten plates
Overall length:	250'0"	Vertical:	2 angles w/batten plates; 1 angle
Roadway length:	19'2"	Diagonal:	2 angles w/batten plates
		Floor/decking:	asphalt over corrugated steel deck with steel stringers
		Substructure:	concrete wingwalls and solid concrete piers

Sources of Information

Structure Inventory and Appraisal: ADA168-12.05070. Colorado Department of Highways, Denver, Colorado.

Adams County Commissioners' Minutes: February 19, 1926 (Book 7, pp. 80-81). Adams County Government Building, Brighton, Colorado.

Ming Yeh, Adams County Engineer, oral interview with Carl Hallberg, August 24, 1983.

Field inspection by Carl Hallberg, August 24, 1983.